

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) Sample-holder for measuring both draw and humidity of a cigarette ~~parameters of porous objects, this sample holder comprising a tobacco rod and a filter wrapped in a cigarette paper and a filter a draw measurement cell, and a hyperfrequency cavity for humidity measurement integrated within the cell so as to surround the object present in said cell over at least part of its height, to enable measurement of humidity before and/or after draw measurement~~ said sample-holder comprising in a same structure a combination of a draw measurement cell which comprises a tubular body provided with an access orifice for the cigarette, a central cavity and an output orifice provided with a first sphincter adapted to encapsulate an end portion of said filter to hold the cigarette in place inside said tubular body with said central cavity surrounding said tobacco rod over at least a part of its height, means for generating an aspiration flow at a lower end of the filter and a pressure sensor for measuring the load loss generated by the cigarette on this aspiration flow and a humidity detecting means using said cavity as a hyperfrequency cavity and comprising means for applying and analysing hyperfrequency signals in said cavity so as to effect humidity measurements on said cigarette before, during and/or after the draw measurement by said measurement cell.

2. (Currently amended) Sample-holder as in claim 1, intended to measure parameters of a cigarette comprising a tobacco rod wrapped in cigarette paper and a filter, said sample-holder comprising a tubular body comprising:

- an access orifice provided with an iris diaphragm enabling separation of the top of the tobacco rod from the atmosphere so as to channel the flow of paper ventilation for its measurement using first suitable flow measuring means,

- ~~[[a]]~~ the cavity surrounding the tobacco rod over at least a fraction of its height so as to allow determination of the humidity content of the tobacco through the analysis of hyperfrequency signals, and

- at least a first sphincter to hold the cigarette in place by encapsulating the filter end, so as to perform draw measurements using aspiration means associated with said sphincter and second means for measuring pressure,

- the distance between the iris diaphragm and the lower end of the sphincter being slightly shorter than the length of a cigarette.

3. (Previously presented) Sample-holder as in claim 2,

comprising a second sphincter enabling encapsulation of the filter opposite the first sphincter with respect to a ventilation zone of the filter so as to channel the ventilation flow of the filter for its measurement.

4. (Previously presented) Sample-holder as in claim 1,

comprising a processor able to control an operative sequence successively comprising measurements of:

- humidity before draw,
- standardized draw,
- filter ventilation,
- paper ventilation,
- draw with filter ventilation closed,
- humidity after draw.

5. (Currently amended) Sample-holder as in claim 4, comprising, firstly, a cylindrical structure made of three tubular parts assembled onto one another, namely:

- a first part comprising a hopper whose central coaxial cavity comprises a part of flattened cone shape followed by a cylindrical part whose diameter is substantially that of ~~the~~ a cigarette, the lower part of this hopper comprising an iris diaphragm,

- a second part consisting of ~~[[a]]~~ the hyperfrequency cavity, this part comprising a cylindrical casing whose two circular walls comprise two coaxial circular orifices into which the two respective ends of a tube in dielectric material fit with gas-tight assembly, the inner diameter of this tube being slightly larger than the cigarette diameter,

- a third part comprising a cylindrical central passage with several bore levels carrying a first sphincter intended to encapsulate the cigarette at ~~[[the]]~~ an upper end of ~~the~~ a filter, and a second

sphincter intended to encapsulate ~~the~~ a lower end of the filter.

and secondly,

- aspiration means connected downstream of ~~[[the]]~~ a second sphincter, these aspiration means comprising means for measuring said aspiration flow ~~the flow of aspirated air~~,

- a first air flow duct leading into a chamber located in ~~[[the]]~~ a space between ~~[[the]]~~ a first and a second part, to channel and measure the paper ventilation flow rate,

- a second air flow duct leading into ~~a chamber located in~~ the space between the two sphincters, to channel and measure ~~[[the]]~~ a filter ventilation flow rate.